

RAMSBOTTOM
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

and

Chief Sanitary Inspector,

1946.

RAMSBOTTOM :
H. DEARDEN, PRINTER, SQUARE STREET.

RAMSBOTTOM
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
and
Chief Sanitary Inspector,
1946.

RAMSBOTTOM :
H. DEARDEN, PRINTER, SQUARE STREET.

RAMSBOTTOM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL:

CHAIRMAN: †COUNCILLOR M. CRAWSHAW, J.P.

COUNCILLORS :

*W. S. CLARK (from April)	*G. HOLT, J.P.
*R. CROWTHER	E. L. MCCARTHY
G. FOGG	*A. MOONEY (from April)
H. FOSTER (to April)	*J. MOORE (from April)
T. R. HAWORTH (from April)	*R. NIXON (from April)
*R. HEYES (resigned April)	*H. C. RANDELL
*N. HIGSON	*T. O. SHELDON (to April)
W. HOLDEN, J.P.	R. T. TURNBULL, J.P.

†Chairman of Health Committee.

*Members of Health Committee.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (PART TIME):
HUGH LAWRIE, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR:
STANLEY F. BAYLEY, F.S.I.A., M.R.SAN.I.
Cert. Inspector of Meat and Foods.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR:
CYRUS BOWLT, M.S.I.A.
(from 1st October).

CLERKS:
JOHN HOLT (IN H.M. FORCES).
MRS. S. GOODFELLOW, (TEMPORARY).
ERIC HASLAM, (TEMPORARY).



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30028231>

To the Ramsbottom Urban District Council,

The Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

THE CHIEF SANITARY OFFICER,

1946.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Now that I have reached the eventide of a long, interesting and busy life, I have in the nature of things decided to withdraw from the active pursuit of my professional activities and from the position of Medical Officer of Health of Ramsbottom—a position which I have held since 1912—in order to seek that quiet restfulness which is the natural need of old age.

This, therefore, will be the last annual report of public health affairs which I regretfully shall have the honour of presenting to you for your consideration. In doing so, I should like to take the opportunity of expressing to you my grateful thanks for the encouragement and consideration which I have received from you in the fulfilment of my duties as your chief officer in the public health department.

Encouragement was not always so manifest as it has been in recent years, for I can remember a time when small interest was evinced in public health matters and when the atmosphere of the Health Committee meetings was rather to let sleeping dogs lie than arouse them to activity in the public weal.

After the formation of a Health Ministry in 1919 with a Minister of its own, apart from the Local Government Board which has been responsible to Parliament for public health affairs, there was a great change.

Things began to move and have been moving with accelerating speed ever since, so much so in fact that the Public Health Office from time to time has been simply snowed under with enactments, circulars, regulations, orders and what you will, all directed to the improvement of national health and the energizing of the activities of Local Authorities and their officials.

During this time you have been fortunate in your Sanitary Inspectors, first Mr. G. Shaw, then Mr. H. Barlow, and now Mr. S. F. Bayley, more efficient inspectors it would have been difficult to find, for I always found that they were equal to the demands made upon them.

You will note that the birth-rate is considerably increased—nearly fifty more births than for the year preceding. Nationally there is an increasing birth-rate, and Ramsbottom apparently desires to share in it.

The death rates also are all above last year's records, but the one to which I wish to direct your attention is that of illegitimate children. This rate is usually greater than that for legitimate children and often very much greater, as for instance this year. The average death rate for illegitimate as compared with legitimate children in Ramsbottom for the last six years is as 99 to 51—just think what this means all over the country.

Lack of the necessary care in early life is the most likely reason, and as such children are just as valuable to the nation at other children, their chance of survival should be the concern of everyone interested. Many institutions of varied sorts exist for

the care of such children and in some instances for their mothers as well, and I would suggest that you consider at an early date what can be done about it in Ramsbottom.

There is no resident nurse in Summerseat now; her duties at present are discharged by a visiting nurse from Bury. An epidemic of measles occurred in the third quarter of the year with 97 cases and no deaths.

Again let me thank you for your continuing interest in promoting the general welfare and good health of the people of Ramsbottom, and may my successor in office, Dr. Mackay, meet with the same generous consideration from you as I have done.

My thanks are also due to my fellow officials and particularly those of the health office from whom I have had so much willing assistance.

Yours faithfully,

HUGH LAWRIE, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting, in conjunction with the Report of the Medical Officer of Health, my Annual Report on the Sanitary Inspection of the Urban District for the year 1946.

The optimism with which the public cleansing service was viewed in the 1945 Report has been partially justified and for the greater part of the year under review a weekly collection of household refuse was maintained. This was only made possible by the sustained effort of certain members of the cleansing staff, and the efficiency of the service is still threatened by unsatisfactory features, not the least of which is the amount of time lost whilst vehicles are under repair. Owing to the slow rate of delivery of new vehicles and the difficulties met with in obtaining spares quickly, this problem is likely to be with us for some time.

As was the case last year, the lack of technical assistance for nine months of the year made it impossible to carry out organised action in any given field, but with the appointment of Mr. C. Bowlt in October, plans were formulated and a start made on systematic inspections, priority being given to the hygiene of food premises.

Nevertheless, a good deal of attention was given throughout the year to the water supply in the Turn area and to the cleanliness of the milk produced in the district.

It is pleasing to note that the necessary machinery is now in motion to ensure a public water supply to the Turn district. I trust that a comprehensive drainage scheme will soon follow.

The percentage of milk samples which satisfied the tests for cleanliness reached a new high level, and judging by the keen interest and helpful attitude shown by most farmers to the problem of clean milk production there is every indication that this level will at least be maintained.

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Medical Officer of Health and staff of the Health Department for their co-operation and assistance, fellow officials in other departments of the Council for help and advice, and the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their encouragement and support.

Your obedient servant,

STANLEY F. BAYLEY,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area in acres	9,564
Population (Census 1931)	15,530
Registrar-General's estimate, mid-1946	13,900
Number of inhabited houses—	
(a) Census 1931	4,390
(b) End of 1946	4,943
Rateable Value	£82,514
Sum represented by a penny rate	£324

Vital Statistics.

Live Births	{	Total	M.	F.	Birth rate per 1,000 of the population 17.8
		Legitimate	237	111	126
		Illegitimate	11	7	4
		Total	248	118	130
Still Births		8	3	5	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 31.0
Deaths		211	100	111	Death rate per 1,000 of the population 15.1
England and Wales {		Birth Rate ...	19.1		
		Death Rate ...	11.5		

Age Periods of Deaths.

	M.	F.	Total
Under 1 year	6	7	13
Between 1 and 5 years ...	1	0	1
,, 5 and 15 years ...	0	1	1
,, 15 and 25 years ...	0	2	2
,, 25 and 45 years ...	5	6	11
,, 45 and 65 years ...	24	29	53
65 years and over	64	66	130
Totals	100	111	211

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

	Deaths. (live and still) births.	Rate per 1,000 total
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other Maternal causes	1	3.9

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	52.0
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	46.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	181.0

Deaths from Certain Specified Diseases.

Death from Cancer (all ages)	30
„ „ Measles (all ages)	0
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	3

CAUSES OF DEATHS	1946	1945
ALL CAUSES	211	197
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0
Whooping Cough	1	0
Diphtheria	0	0
Tuberculosis or Respiratory System	7	5
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	0	1
Syphilitic Diseases	2	1
Influenza	4	0
Measles	0	0
Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis ...	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica	0	0
Cancer	30	22
Diabetes	1	2
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	26	25
Heart Diseases	63	55
Other Circulatory Diseases	3	17
Bronchitis	20	12
Pneumonia (all forms)	8	3
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	3
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	2	1
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	3	0
Appendicitis	0	1
Other Digestive Diseases	9	0
Nephritis	6	7
Puerperal Sepsis	0	0
Other Maternal Causes	1	1
Premature Birth	2	2
Congenital Malformation, etc.	4	3
Suicide	3	6
Road Traffic Accidents	0	1
Other Violent Causes	1	5
All other Causes	13	24

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Laboratory facilities are available at—

The Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.

The Laboratory, Bury Infirmary.

Dr. J. S. Pooley's Exors., Broadfield Clinical Laboratory,
Rochdale.

The following specimens were submitted for examination :—

Diphtheria Swabs	40
Sputum for T.B.	10
Milk for T.B.	50
Milk for Methylene Blue Test and bacillus coli...	44
Water for Bacteria... ..	16
Water for Chemical	1
Miscellaneous	1

Motor Ambulances.—Two for conveyance of infectious cases and two for non-infectious.

District Nurses.—Two. One is provided by the Ramsbottom Hospital Committee, and the Summerseat district is served by a nurse from Bury. No district nursing is undertaken by the local authority.

Hospitals.—In the Hospitals of Ramsbottom, Bury and Manchester, institutional and other services are available to members and their dependents of the local Medical Services Association, which comprises most of the industrial population. For those who prefer it and can afford the cost, the same services with private accommodation in single or double bed wards are available.

Midwives.—Two County Council Midwives serve the needs of the district. Their services are adequate for the Urban District.

Maternity Homes.—Bury Infirmary, 12 beds ; Moorlands Hospital, Rawtenstall, 16 beds ; and the County Hospital at Jericho, 24 beds. The obstetrical clinics attached to these Hospitals undertake pre-natal and post-natal supervision, and are well patronised by our expectant mothers.

Institutional treatment of puerperal sepsis is provided at the Florence Nightingale Hospital, Bury.

Orthopædics.—Treatment of this special character is available by arrangement with the County Medical Officer of Health.

Child Welfare Centre.—This centre of activity, now under County control, is under the superintendence of one of the County's Health Visitors, and is as serviceable and popular as ever.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

NAME	WHERE HELD	TIME	BY WHOM PROVIDED
Maternity and Child Welfare Centres	Baptist Sunday School, Ramsbottom.	Tuesday, 2-0 to 4-0 p.m.	Lancashire County Cl.
School Clinic	Bank Chambers, Bridge St., Ramsbottom.	Friday, 9 a.m. to 12 noon (Nurse only)	Lancashire County Cl.
Minor Ailments	" "	Monday, 9 a.m. to 12 noon	
S.M.O. Inspection Clinic	" "	Tues. & Thur. 9 a.m. to 12 noon	
Dental Clinic	" "	Alternate Tues. " "	
Ophthalmic Clinic	" " " " " "	3rd Wednesday in the month	
Orthopædic Clinic	" " The Uplands," Whitefield.	Thursday (Nurse only)	
Tuberculosis Clinic	41, Derbyshire Street, Radcliffe.	Wednesday, 2-30 p.m. and every 3rd Wednesday in the month at 6-30 p.m.	Lancashire County Cl.
	Lees Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.	Tuesday, 2-30 p.m. and every 1st Tuesday in the month 6-30 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.	" "
	The Wylde, Bury.	Males: Tues. 7 to 8-30 p.m. Fri. 5-30 to 7 p.m. Sat. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Females: Tues. 5-30 to 7 p.m. Thurs. 2 to 5 p.m. Fri. 7-0 to 8-30 p.m.	" "
Venereal Diseases Clinic			" "

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The public water supply is maintained by the Irwell Valley Water Board. The whole supply is chlorinated and part is filtered through closed pressure filters. The supply is satisfactory in quality and with the exception of a few isolated groups of property the quantity is sufficient.

Reports on the Chemical and Bacteriological examinations are given below :—

Chemical Examination.		Parts per 100,000
Colour	... ..	Normal.
Turbidity	... ..	None.
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C	...	0.051
Free and Saline Ammonia	... ..	0.0154
Albuminoid Ammonia	... ..	0.0170
Nitrous Nitrogen	... ..	None.
Nitric Nitrogen	... ..	0.04
Chlorides	... ..	1.5
Hardness	{ Temporary	None.
Clarkes' Method	{ Permanent	6.0
	{ Total	6.0
Reactions PH	... ..	7.5
Action on Lead (24 hours)	... ..	0.12
Metals	... ..	None.

12th August, 1946.

(Signed) J. M. WATKINSON.

Bacteriological Examination.

Acrobic micro organisms growing in yeastrel agar.	No. of colonies per c.c. of water.
In 3 days at 22°C	31
In 2 days at 37°C	1
Probable number of coliform organisms per 100 c.c. of water	0

12th August, 1946.

(Signed) C. SHAW.

The following table shows the number of houses and types of water supply in the district :—

Number of Inhabited Houses.	Approximate Number of Houses.		
	With piped supply from Public Mains.	With piped supply from private sources.	Without piped Supply.
4,943	4,289	620	34

There are no stand-pipes in the district.

Fifteen samples from private supplies in the Turn area, the majority of which were piped, were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year. The presence of B. Coli of true faecal type was reported in twelve of these samples.

As a result of these investigations and the findings during 1945 the Council resolved to extend the public water supply to this area.

Sewerage.

No important changes were made during the year.

Rivers and Streams.

One minor case of pollution was discovered and rectified during the year.

Closet Accommodation.

The following conversions were carried out during the year :

13 Waste Water Closets to F.W.C's.

ACCOMMODATION AT END OF 1946.

Privy Middens	35
Pail Closets	161
Waste Water Closets	1,122
Fresh Water Closets	3,265

Public Cleansing.

Types of receptacles in use at the beginning of the year :—

Privy Middens	35
Pail Closets	161
Dry Ashpits	28
Dustbins (approx.)	4,580

REFUSE COLLECTION.

The collection of domestic and trade refuse is carried out by direct labour, except in the Deeply Vale area, where it is let out by contract to a local farmer.

Two S. and D. Freighters and one Karrier Bantam, all of 7 cu. yd. capacity, are engaged on this work.

These vehicles are also used for the collection of salvage and waste food.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

The method of disposal of house and trade refuse is by Controlled Tipping. Two tips are in use, one at Miller Street, Summerseat, and the other at Blackburn Road, Edenfield.

The contents of pail closets are emptied into the sewer.

EXPENDITURE.

The nett cost of refuse collection and disposal for the financial year ending 31st March, 1947, was £4,056 11s. 2d., compared with £3,365 16s. 10d. for the previous year.

SCHEME FOR THE PROVISION OF DUSTBINS.

167 dustbins were supplied under this scheme during the year.

SALVAGE OF MATERIALS.

188 tons of salvage were recovered during the year ending 31st March, 1947, and the income from the sale of these materials amounted to £701 14s.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

Number and Nature of Inspections	Primary Inspec- tions	Revisits	Total Visits
Housing—Housing Act	75	98	173
Housing—Public Health Act	22	40	62
Other Visits—Housing Act	23	3	26
Other Visits—Public Health Act	115	61	176
Infectious Diseases	49	10	59
Schools	3	2	5
Water supply and Sampling	34	38	72
Drainage	87	168	255
Conversion of obsolete closets to FWC's	16	4	20
Public Cleansing	215	3	218
Vermin Infestations	14	19	33
Smoke Abatement	2	1	3
Offensive Trades	6	12	18
Common Lodging Houses	2	—	2
Dairies and Cowsheds	97	3	100
Milk Sampling	51	—	51
Bakehouses	9	—	9
Food Preparing Premises	11	12	23
Meat and Food Inspection—			
(a) Slaughterhouses	230	—	230
(b) Shops	31	3	34
Factories' Act	4	13	17
Shops Act	4	3	7
Rat Infestations	61	32	93
Overcrowding	1	—	1
Temporary Dwellings	1	—	1
Salvage	31	—	31
Miscellaneous Visits	112	2	114
Complaints Unfounded	5	—	5
	1311	527	1838

Notices Served, etc.

Informal Notices	122
Statutory Notices	2
Certificates of Essentiality (Circular 2871)	35

SANITARY DEFECTS AND NUISANCES FOUND.**(a) Housing.**

Defective roofs, rainwater pipes, eavespouts	31
Other external defects	17
Damp walls	36
Internal defects	39
Insanitary Sinks	12

(b) General.

Defective W.C.'s and W.C. structures	8
Defective waste water closets or structures	8
Houses with insufficient W.C. accommodation	1
Houses with inadequate or unsatisfactory water supply ...	63
Houses without ashes accommodation	11
Houses with defective ashes accommodation	37
Dangerous structures	1
Offensive accumulations	1
Dirty houses	1
Vermin infested houses	5
Vermin infested articles	1
Rat infested premises	9
Other nuisances	7
Polluted streams	1

(c) Drainage.

Choked waste water closets	78
Defective drains	27
Choked drains	22

NUISANCES ABATED AND WORK DONE.

(a) Housing.

Roofs, rainwater pipes, eavespouts repaired or renewed	38
Other external repairs	15
Dampness in walls remedied	6
Internal housing repairs	32
Yard paving repaired	2
Sinks renewed	6

(b) General.

Water closets and structures repaired	6
Waste water closets abolished and fresh water closets provided	13
Waste water closets or structures repaired	8
Houses provided with sufficient W.C. accommodation ...	1
Houses provided with satisfactory and adequate water supply	9
Houses provided with dustbins	7
Defective dustbins renewed	31
Offensive accumulations removed	1
Dirty houses cleansed	1
Vermin infested houses cleansed	5
Vermin infested articles cleansed	1
Rat infested premises cleared	9
Other nuisances abated	5
Pollution of streams remedied	1
Dangerous structure remedied	1
Defective sanitary accommodation in schools remedied	1

(c) Drainage.

Choked waste water closets cleansed	78
Defective drains repaired	23
Choked drains cleansed... ..	19
New drains tested and passed	55
Old drains tested	10

- (2) (a) Number of Dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 nil
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose... .. nil
- (3) Number of Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation nil
- (4) Number of Dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 92

2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of formal notices :—

Number of defective Dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 63

4.—Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding. No material change.

5.—Clearance Area Procedure. No action during the year.

NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR.

- (a) By the Local Authority (Permanent) nil
- (b) „ „ „ „ (Temporary) 41
- (c) By Private Enterprise 3
- (

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) **Milk Supply :—**

Number of producers	... ..	24
Number of producer retailers	... ..	42
Number of retailers	... ..	17
Dealers' licences to sell pasteurised milk	... ..	3
Supplementary licences to sell pasteurised milk	... ..	1

Accredited producers	4
Number of visits to cowsheds and dairies	100
Unsatisfactory conditions in cowsheds remedied as a result of informal action	5
Cowsheds reconstructed	1

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

The following table shows the results of samples of milk submitted for the Methylene Blue and B. Coli tests as prescribed for "Accredited Milk."

The samples of "Accredited Milk" were taken on behalf of the Lancashire County Council.

Class of Milk	Number submitted	Satisfactory on both Tests	Not Satisfactory on both Tests	Not Satisfactory on Methylene B Tests.	Not satisfactory on B Coli Test
Accredited.....	3	2	1	—	—
Undesignated.	40	31	1	3	5

One sample of pasteurised milk was submitted for examination and passed the prescribed tests.

43 of the above samples, together with 7 samples of School Milk taken on behalf of the Lancashire County Council, were examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli. 1 sample of undesignated milk and 1 sample of school milk proved positive. The offending animals were traced by the County Veterinary service and subsequently slaughtered. The school served by the offending sample now has a supply of heat-treated milk.

All unsatisfactory samples produced in the district were followed up at the farm and advice given on the production of clean milk.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

During the year all pigs slaughtered at the Bacon Factory in

the district have been examined. Particulars of carcasses inspected and the amounts condemned are shown below.

Number of pigs examined after slaughter 4,200

Number of carcasses found to be unfit for human consumption :—

(a) Tuberculous 7

(b) Other Diseases nil

Weight of carcasses and organs found to be unfit for human consumption :—

	Whole Carcasses & Organs lbs.	Part Carcasses & Organs lbs.	Total lbs.
All Diseases except Tuberculosis	nil	1192	1192
Tuberculosis only	1215	7488	8703
Totals	1215	8680	9895

A number of pigs slaughtered for private consumption were also examined. Part carcasses and organs affected with Tuberculosis and weighing 32 lbs. were surrendered.

143 lbs. of forequarter of beef recovered by the police following a case of illicit slaughtering was condemned as unfit due to putrefaction.

In the course of visits to shops, food stores and food preparing premises, the following foods were found to be unfit for human consumption :—

Meat.

23 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. Beef (Putrefaction).

Other Foods.

- 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. Ham (Putrefaction).
- 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Bacon (Putrefaction).
- 18 $\frac{1}{8}$ lbs. Butter (Rancidity and Mould).
- 25 lbs. Prunes (Mould).
- 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ lbs. Baking Powder (C.O.2 Deficiency).
- 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Cheese (Mites).

Tinned Food.

- 115 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Meat.
- 192 Tins of Milk.
- 29 lbs. Preserved Fruit.
- 25 Tins of Fish.
- 458 Tins Miscellaneous Food.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The provisions of the above Act relating to the sampling of food for quality are administered by the Lancashire County Council. Assistance is given to the County Officer when required.

Dr. F. Hall, County Medical Officer of Health, has kindly supplied the following information :—

Fifteen samples of milk were obtained, three of which were deficient in fat as follows :—

9%	8%	3%
----	----	----

Further samples from these sources were found to be genuine. The following samples were also obtained :—

2 Cocoa : 3 Sugar : 2 Baking Powder and 1 Dried Milk. One sample of Baking Powder was found to be deficient of 9.5% carbon dioxide. The sample of Dried Milk was caked solid. The remaining stocks of both Baking Powder and Dried Milk were withdrawn from sale.

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (Rivers Board and
General Powers) Act, 1938.

One notice under Section 116, sub-section 4, of the above Act was served on the occupier of premises used for the manufacture of Ice Cream. As a result, alterations were carried out on the premises.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
DISEASES.

Infectious Diseases. See tables for classifications, numbers and monthly incidences. The Isolation Hospitals are :—Florence Nightingale—82 beds, Ainsworth—28 beds ; the latter, if required, can be requisitioned for Small Pox. These Hospitals hitherto have provided all necessary accommodation. They are subject to control of a Joint Hospital Board, of which the Urban District is a constituent member.

Diphtheria. Three cases were notified of true diphtheria, the lowest for many years. A few more cases were notified and sent to Hospital, where the disease was found not be diphtheria. None of the cases had been immunised. Again I appeal to the parents and guardians of children to take advantage of immunisation, especially to those having under their care children under 5 years—the period 1-5 years being the most fatal for children when attacked. The treatment is simple, costs nothing, and is nearly a hundred per cent effective.

The following table shows the number of children immunised during the year and the total number of children under 15 years at the 31st December, 1946, who had completed a full course of immunisation :—

	Under five years.	5-15 years.
Completed treatment during year ...	99	5
Total immunised at 31st Dec., 1946	336	1173

An unknown number of children have been immunised by their family doctors.

During 1946, 64,000 units of diphtheria antitoxin were issued through the Public Health Office.

Measles. An epidemic occurred during July, August and September. The disease was of a mild type.

Whooping Cough. Twelve cases were notified, considerably less than last year. One death took place, but the disease was of a mild type.

Scabies. Thirteen cases received treatment at the school clinic.

Disinfection. This operation is carried out with formalin spray or candles. 34 houses were disinfected in this way during the year.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during 1946.

TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.																												
DISEASE.	Total Cases all ages	AGED PERIODS—YEARS.															Total Deaths	Cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital									
		Under 1		1 to 2		2 to 3		3 to 4		4 to 5		5 to 10		10 to 15		15 to 20				20 to 35		35 to 45		45 to 65		65 and over		
		1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1				2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
		der 1	ages 2	ages 3	ages 4	ages 5	ages 6	ages 7	ages 8	ages 9	ages 10	ages 11	ages 12	ages 13	ages 14	ages 15				ages 16	ages 17	ages 18	ages 19	ages 20	ages 21	ages 22	ages 23	ages 24	ages 25
Scarlet Fever	20						2		1	4	6	4	2	1											20	...		
Diphtheria	3						1			2															3	...		
Measles	97	3	9	16	11	18	38	1	1																...	...		
Whooping Cough	12	4	1	1	3	1	1						1												...	...		
Pneumonia	22			1	1	3	2				1				2	10	2							4	4			
Erysipelas	2										1													2	...			
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1													1										1	...			
Totals	157	7	10	21	15	23	47	7	7	4	4	10	2											8	30	4		

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—Monthly Incidence, 1946.

DISEASE.	Total	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Scarlet Fever	20	7	3	1	3	3		1				1	1
Diphtheria	3				2		1						
Measles	97				1			50	38	8			
Whooping Cough	12							3	8	1			
Pneumonia	22	3	5	7	1	1	1			2		2	
Erysipelas	2				1			1					
Respiratory Tuberculosis	10	2		1		1	2	1	1	1			1
Non-Resp. Tuberculosis	5							1	2	1		1	
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1		1										
Totals	172	12	9	9	8	5	4	57	49	13	—	4	2

INFECTIOUS DISEASES—Comparison 1937—1946.

DISEASE.	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937
Scarlet Fever ...	20	72	69	74	22	39	25	27	21	24
Diphtheria ...	3	12	6	16	9	31	38	22	28	31
Enteric Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	...
Measles ...	97	104	38	190	38	201	211	2	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	12	66	17	16	11	166	4	1	...	...
Pneumonia ...	22	22	23	23	21	28	43	26	24	40
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	2	1	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	4	2
Erysipelas ...	2	5	5	5	6	9	3	5	5	3
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	10	12	10	8	6	10	8	10	11	8
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	5	3	6	8	2	2	7	5	4	2
Dysentery ...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	1	...	1	...	3	5	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Acute Polio-myelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...
Acute Polio-encephalitis ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	172	299	176	341	119	495	344	104	99	110

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1946.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
Years:	M	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	....	....	....	....	....	...	....	....
1 to 5	....	....	2	....	....	....	....	....
5 to 10	....	....	1	...	....	....	...	....
10 to 15	....	....	....	...	....	....	....	....
15 to 20	1	2	1	....	...	2	....	....
20 to 25	....	1	1	....	....	....	...	....
25 to 35	1	....	....	....	....	....	...	....
35 to 45	2	....	....	....	....	....	...	....
45 to 55	....	....	....	....	....	1	....	....
55 to 65	....	....	....	....	....	1	....	....
65 & over	2	1	....	....	2	1	....	....
Totals	6	4	5	0	2	5	0	0
	10		5		7		0	

